TERMS: \$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

PERCY H. VAN DYKE, Editor.

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The Democratic papers of Missouri laud those who voted to refuse Quay a seat in the senate, the first time praise was ever heaped upon Mark Hanna by his political enemies.

Some "Silver Republicans" (?) in Kansas, recently denounced the expansion and financial policies of the administration. They should be restrained from using the name with which they have nothing in common.

The conservative people of the country will not be quick to believe that the man who received the honor of a gubernatorial nomination and was elected by the people, is guilty of complicity in the murder of William Goebel.

"Cannot Dr. Gore run just as well tied to Stone's coat tail as to that of Stephens?" was a question put to Monday's convention by a country delegate. But the convention answered nay. It took a most politic speech and much private wire-pulling to bring forth the answer, however.

The resourceful Quay will never be permanently downed, despite the efforts of Wanamaker and his hypocritical reformers. The Republicans of his state should make their victory this year so overwhelming, that the big Philadelphia department store cannot control the action of the legislature.

According to Hon. Geo. Robertson of Mexico, a contribution of \$2,100 by two railroads of this state to the Democratic slush fund was made in 1896 through W. H. Phelps to Sam Cook, who concealed the true source of its receipt, in the statement required by law. When Damocrats fall out, interesting facts soon come to light.

Phelps is said to favor the candidacy of Cook for Secretary of State, not because of any good feeling or respect he has for the man, but because he can be bought cheap. But the railroads evidently have the price of any of our officials, legislation in their behalf may need. Cook's desirability, however, seems to be in his price.

Lieut. White of the Arkansas Volunteers in a letter congratulating Governor Jones on his expansion belief, affirms the statement so often denied by Democratic papers, that Bryan, Mason and Hoar are referred to as "Buen Amigos" (good friends) by Aguinaldo, who bases all his hopes for success upon Bryan's election to the presidency.

"The tree our fathers set covered at first a little space by the seaside. It has spanned the Mississippi. The sweep of its lofty arches rises over the Rocky Mountains and the Cascades and the Nevadas. Its boughs hang over the Pacific. And in time—in good time—it will send its roots beneath the waves an i receive under its vast canopy the islands of the sea."—From an address of Senator Hoar—five years ago.

DEMOCRACY PROMISES NOTHING.

Both Democratic conventions indorsed the state administration and (to speak verbatim) "in order to insure the same good results" proceeded to instruct for various candidates. This is the issue which the Democracy of the state is laying before the people of Saline and the other counties of Missouri, and the one upon which the Republicans should willingly and gladly take issue in this year's campaign.

It would seem that Democracy were foolish in promising no more than Missouri has endured the past four years under the Stephen's administration. Yet this should not be a source of surprise, as the majority party has so long been at the state's helm that to them, the thought of their overthrow is hardly conceivable. It is this sense of security from condemnation of the people, which not only nourishes their present assurance, but has in the past been the backbone of their disregard of right and defiance of the will of the people. If the state were reasonable in its allegiance to this party, the glaring corruption of its legislatures and the machinations and narrow, blundering policy of its governor, would sweep the responsible party from the offices they have corrupted and disgraced.

But surely Missouri is not dyed so deeply in the black of the machine Democracy, that a record such as that of Stepheus, may be endorsed with impunity. His defence of immorality in the asylum scandal and his dickerings with the worst elements in city politics are condemned on every hand. His conception of his high office as party boss and machine leader, his disregard of and failure to promote the best interests of the state, dwarfed beneath his desire to upbuild a powerful partisan machine, in which he should figure as its head, his proven unfitness and incapability of rising to the responsibilities of his office,—are acknowledged by a majority of his own party.

Yet Democracy promises nothing better than this and in its own words stands ready "to insure the same good results." If the legislatures of the last four years and the governor of the present are the agents of the "good results," referred to, then let the people vote for a continuation of these misfits, incapables, derelicts and corruptionists.

But black does not so easily become white, and all the efforts of Democratic campaigners to gloss over the blunders and corruption of the past, then to promise their continuation in the future, will not prove sufficient to hold unto the party the thousands of independent Democrats, who repudiate such an administration as was given us and is now sanctioned and indorsed by the state Democracy.

The Saline County Index offers the word of Sam Piles, Jr., a delegate to Monday's convention, as testimony of an offer of \$50 being made him in exchange for his proxy. It is now up to the Democrat-News to enter a double-column denial and refute the charges as an insult to most righteous and virtuous Democracy. The charge made in this in. stance is specific and deserves attention. To pass it over in silence is to acquiesce in its truthfulness.

SHOOTS THE SHERIFF'S WIFE.

Indian and Negro Break Jell, Assaulting Coptain Wilson and Shooting His Wife, and Make Their Becape.

Two of the most notorious inmates of the Saline County Jail, one under a sentence of ten years to the State Penitentiary and the other a former convict, escaped from the custody of the sheriff Thursday night, after assaulting him and shooting his wife, who nervily and pluckily attempted to resist their escape.

Sheriff Joseph Wilson, who resides together with his family at the jail, was locking up the cells of the prisoners, accompanied by his oldest boy, George, when two of the prisoners, John Smith, a negro under ten years sentence to the penitentiary, and Mindu Cohwagee, an Indian, recently arrested on a charge of burglary and larceny, assaulted the sheriff, throwing him to the floor. His revolver was wrenched from his grasp as he yelled to his son to "run and bolt the door." The boy was grabbed, however, and hurled back, before he could make his escape. The jailbreakers rushed for the front stairway, to be confronted by the sheriff's wife, who proposed to resist their escape.

The Indian, who carried the revolver taken from the sheriff, fired upon the woman, the ball passing through the upper part of her left arm. They rushed past her, through the hallway, out the front door into the street, making their escape, pursued by passing citizens and others who had heard the cries of alarm given.

All deputies that could be mustered were sent out to capture the jail-breakers, and good descriptions of the men were wired the authorities of all surrounding towns.

John Smith was a low, heavy-set, jet black negro, with round, smooth-shaven face, short stubby nose and very kinky hair, about 5 feet 7 inches in height and weighed about 180 pounds. He wore no coat, but a black-striped summer shirt, black pants and was very shabby in appearance.

Mindu Cohwagee was fairly tall, medium in build, smooth, round face, with long shaggy hair, weighing about 170 pounds. He was dressed in dark clothes, not much

Both are recognized as hardened criminals, and if caught last night, would not have fared well from the hands of their captors. The court house bell was rung and as fast as men assembled, they were detailed for search of the surrounding country in squads of eight, a reward of \$300 being offered for the two escaped men.

Blood hounds owned by parties in Pettis county were telephoned for at Smithton, but had not arrived up to 10 o'clock Friday morning. Various reports are current as to the whereabouts of the two men and as to people having seen them, but none have proven trustworthy or thrown any light upon the situation.

So badly was the arm of Mrs. Wilson shattered by the ball, that the attending physicians decided upon its amputation, which was made Thursday night.